



Trent Batson, a professor in the Department of English, "converses" with students in his English 203 class through a computer network. Batson received a Presidential Award to broaden the use of English Natural Form Instruction by re-training 10 to 15 instructors.

Computers used in English classes

The Department of English this semester is offering two classes in which the teacher and students communicate through computers, a method one English professor says simulates conversational English and allows students to learn English more closely to the way in which hearing students do.

The classes, an English 203 class and a preparatory class for English Language Program students, simulate conversational English through the use of written English sent via a computer network. All "conversing" — between teacher and students and among students — is through the computers, with typed messages appearing on the screens as the message is being typed.

This free-flowing interchange helps facilitate learning, according to English

Professor Trent Batson, who teaches the English 203 class.

"Almost all instructors in deaf education in the United States are hearing. Between them and their students, a language barrier often makes it difficult for this free-flowing interchange. Until now, using written English in the classroom by chalkboard, over-head projectors and handouts has been slow, tedious and impersonal," Batson explained. "Using a computer environment helps overcome this barrier for both the students and the instructor."

According to Batson, written English, rather than signed English, is used in the classes because it is a natural form of the language. Written English is considered a natural form of English, Batson said, because it is used "widely by native speakers and because the form has developed to the point where you can duplicate most of the devices and elements of spoken English. Written English is so well established we don't even think of it as a different form of the language."

By using English in the classes, deaf students are able to simulate conversational English to which hearing students are constantly exposed, Batson said.

The classes meet for between four and seven hours a week in a Learning Center classroom equipped with IBM personal computers. Six computers — five for the students and one for the teacher — are wired together in a local area network and enable English Natural Form Instruction (ENFI), the name given to the experimental project.

The instructor types messages to the class on a CB channel which allows each student to see the message on his

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Suicide prevention task force plans informational programs

Staff members receive emergency training

Suicide rates, particularly among young people, have increased alarmingly in recent years. Since 1970, suicide has climbed from fifth to second place among leading causes of death for people aged 15 to 24, trailing only automobile and other accidents and accounting for approximately 5,000 deaths a year, according to *U.S. News & World Report* magazine.

Counseling and Student Health Service staff at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, the School of Preparatory Studies and the College have formed a suicide prevention task force and are preparing informational programs for the spring semester for faculty, staff and students. "We want everyone at the three schools to be aware and prepared and to know that there are many people concerned about helping stu-

dents in trouble," said Marcia Melamed, Student Health Service director.

Student Affairs professional and paraprofessional staff have already received training in how to deal with campus emergencies, including suicidal acts; and an "Emergency Network System" has been developed to coordinate the work of counselors, residence hall staff, Health Service staff and campus police officers in emergency situations.

Virginia Cowgell, director of the Counseling and Placement Center, advises anyone who is concerned about a student or anyone else suspected of being a potential suicide to seek competent professional advice. "Suicide threats and behavior are too easy to ignore, and if a cry for help gets no

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Warning signs

No one theory explains the act of suicide in all individuals. Sociological, cultural, economic, physiological and mental factors may contribute. Many theories consider suicide to be an aspect of depression.

Signs of depression

1. Rapid weight loss or gain.
2. Change in sleep patterns: inability to sleep, early waking, constant sleeping.
3. Withdrawal from friends, family or social contacts.
4. Loss of interest in formerly enjoyed activities.
5. Difficulty thinking, concentrating or remembering.
6. Fatigue that is not relieved by rest and sleep.

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Development and PR offices relocate

The Office of Development and the Office of Public Relations have relocated to the Learning Center Annex. Don Pettingill's office is also located in that building.

The Development Office moved to its new offices from Hall Memorial Building. The new telephone number for the office is x5408. Office personnel include: Jan Corinne Saunders, coordinator of Development Records and Services; Carole Cangiano, coordinator of Planned and Major Gifts; Marianne Jordan, acting administrator of Corporate and Foundation Relations; Ernest Hoffmann, coordinator of the Annual Fund; Carmen Grimes, bookkeeper/data entry clerk; Brenda Martins, secretary; Cecelia Fortune-Mays,

secretary/interpreter; and May Curtis, volunteer.

The Public Relations staff moved to the building from Chapel Hall. Donna Chitwood, director of Public Relations, Patricia Cinelli, media relations associate, and Pete Moran, exhibits coordinator, can be reached at x5108, x5928, x5455 and x5458.

Don Pettingill can be reached at x5408.

Catherine Higgins dies

Catherine Higgins, who taught at the Tutorial Center on campus from 1969 to 1977 when she retired, died Feb. 15 at the Washington Adventist Hospital in

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Dan Bryant talks with Ros Rosen during a farewell reception held Feb. 19 for Bryant, who left his position as director of Business and Operations Services last week to begin a new job as business manager at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, MO.

English classes use computers

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or her screen as it is being typed. Students can enter into a dialogue by typing their remarks, which are simultaneously displayed at each station. Students can also work individually by using a word processing program, and the teacher can monitor their work and comment privately to each through the network.

It took nine months to work out the technical arrangements for the system, and refinements are being made continually. In addition, Batson, Steve Lombardo, who teaches the preparatory English class, and others in the English Department involved with the project continue to examine which teaching techniques might work best.

With classes now just a little more than one month under way, it is too early to determine the success of using computers to teach English skills. However, Batson has noticed in the first month of class a change in attitude toward English among his five students.

"The students are really excited about the class, and I suspect this may be the first English class in their lives that they've enjoyed. That alone is a major breakthrough," he said.

With the project now in its first semester, Batson has been awarded \$20,000 through the first Presidential Awards at Gallaudet to re-train English Department and MSSD faculty members in the methods of using ENFI in the classroom. His proposal calls for the re-training of 10 to 15 instructors.

Library hours extended

The Learning Center has extended its hours for the spring semester. The library is open on Sundays from 1 p.m. to midnight, Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to midnight, Fridays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.



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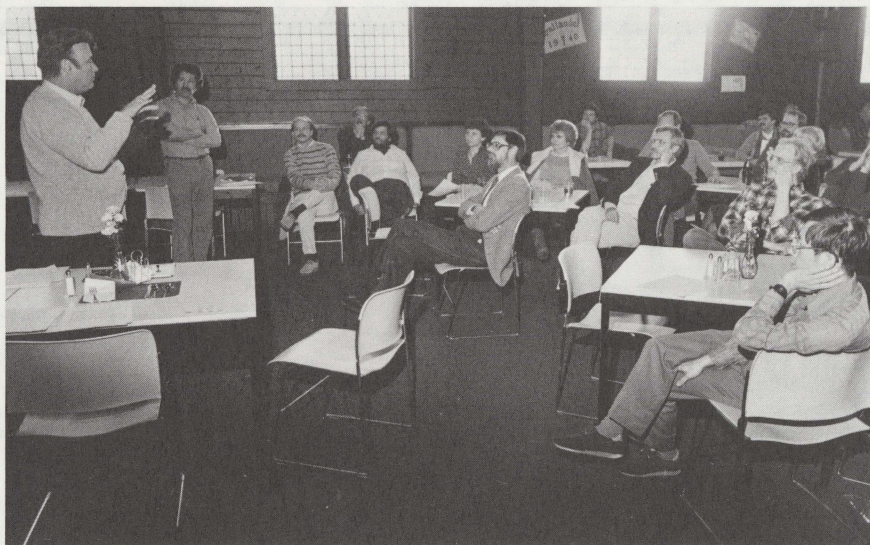
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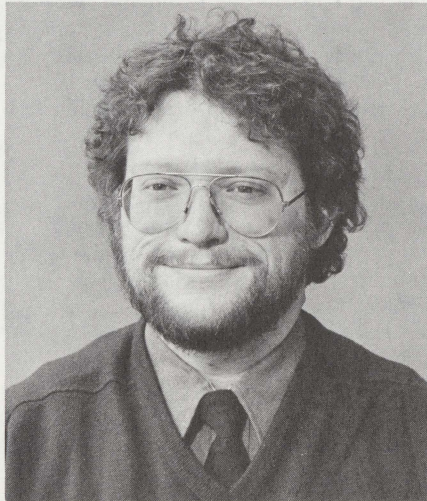
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Bernard Bragg speaks during an open meeting of the Deafness Related Concerns Council held Feb. 7 at "Ole Jim."



David Wertheim

David Wertheim chosen as Officer of the Month

David Wertheim was chosen by the Department of Safety and Security as the Officer of the Month for the month of September 1984.

He was selected through the same process in which four other campus police officers were selected Officer of the Month since June 1984. Like the other winners, Wertheim received a plaque, a letter of recognition from the director of Safety and Security, week-ends off for one month and preferential work assignments for one month.

Wertheim joined the department in 1979. Prior to that, he was employed for one year as a security aide at the University of New Mexico and for three years as a security officer with a northern Virginia bank.

He attended the University of New Mexico where he completed 75 credit hours toward a degree in history and business. He is now attending Northern Virginia Community College where he has completed 34 credit hours toward a degree in criminal justice.

He is currently assigned as a patrolman on the 4 p.m. to midnight shift.

Performance interpreted

Programs in Adult and Community Education (PACE) will sponsor an interpreted performance of "Baby" at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, MD, Friday, March 15 at 6:15 p.m.

The cost is \$17.95 per person. To make reservations, stop by the PACE office in Room 213 of College Hall or call x5597.

Task force plans programs at both campuses

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response, the next action may be much worse," she explained.

Last spring, the Counseling and Placement Center and the Student Health Service at Gallaudet co-sponsored a lecture on suicide, which was attended by around 100 students and staff. A follow-up workshop titled "How to Deal with a Suicidal Friend" also attracted a good-sized audience. On Feb. 5 the School of Preparatory Studies offered a sparsely attended seminar on suicide prevention for faculty and staff.

Those who work with high school and college students have good reason to be concerned and a need for information about self-destructive behavior, the accompanying dangers and preventative measures, Cowgell urged.

Anyone interested in more information should contact Melamed at x5522 or Cowgell at x5638.

Catherine Higgins, former Gallaudet employee, dies

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Takoma Park, MD, following a long illness.

Mrs. Higgins graduated from the Alabama School for the Deaf in 1927 and from Gallaudet College in 1932. She taught at the Kentucky School for the Deaf until 1947, the year her husband, Francis, assumed the chairmanship of the Department of Chemistry at Gallaudet.

A member of the Calvary Baptist Church of the Deaf in Washington since 1954, she was active in church work. She was also national president of Phi Kappa Zeta from 1969 to 1972 and chairperson of the Phi Kappa Zeta Scholarship Committee from 1976 to the time of her death.

Mrs. Higgins is survived by her husband; three children, Mrs. Bonnie Arrington of Greenville, SC, Lt. Col. Larry B. Higgins of Lexington Park, MD, and Dr. Paul C. Higgins of Columbia, SC; and six grandchildren.

A private memorial service was held for Mrs. Higgins. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to the American Cancer Society, the Gallaudet College Alumni Association or Calvary Baptist Church of the Deaf.

Warning signs

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7. Sense of worthlessness, hopelessness or guilt.
8. Uncharacteristic agitation and hostility.
9. Suicidal thoughts, thoughts about death.

Warning signs of risk

1. Suicidal talk, self-destructive or risky behaviors.
2. Loss of an important source of support.
3. Access to lethal weapons, medications, etc.
4. Reaction to the loss of someone who has committed suicide (e.g. parent, other relative).
5. Abuse of drugs or alcohol.
6. Suicidal attempts or gestures.
7. Making preparation for death: giving away prized possessions, writing or updating a will, putting affairs "in order."

Jobs Available

Some of the advertised staff positions may already be filled. For updated information, call the JOB RECORDING in the Personnel Office, x5514 or x5520 TDD.

SECRETARIAL POSITIONS: Contact Personnel for listing.
SUPERVISING PSYCHOLOGIST: Counseling and Placement Center
PHYSICAL THERAPIST: KDES Diagnostic and Support Services
APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER/BUSINESS APPLICATIONS: Computer Services
REGISTERED NURSE: Student Health Service
SENIOR APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER/USER SERVICES: Computer Services
APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMERS/USER SERVICES: Computer Services
WORD PROCESSING SPECIALIST: Research — Center for Studies in Education and Human Development
CAREER COUNSELOR: Counseling and Placement Center
STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST: Counseling and Placement Center
DRIVER: Student Health Service
SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUIST: Department of Linguistics
ASSOCIATE/FULL PROFESSOR AND CHAIR: Department of Television, Film and Photography
ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR: Film
ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR: Television
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Audiology
INSTRUCTOR/ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Interpreter/Transliterators Instruction
INSTRUCTOR: Sign Language Instruction
DIRECTOR: Office of Cued Speech
LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT: Library (Media)
FACULTY POSITIONS: College of Arts and Sciences: English, Mathematics and Computer Science; Business Administration; Economics; Preparatory level Mathematics and English
FACULTY POSITIONS: School of Communication: Communication Arts
FACULTY POSITIONS: School of Education and Human Services: Education; Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics
PRESSMAN: Print Shop
VICE PRESIDENT: College Relations
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT: Development
ASSISTIVE DEVICES ROOM MANAGER: Audiology

Classified Ads

ROOM FOR RENT: Room with full bath. Capitol Hill area, one block from Union Station. Newly renovated. Immediate occupancy. Rent negotiable. Call Sandi — evenings at 544-5496 (TDD), days at 722-5844 (TDD/voice).